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Assistant Commissioner for PatentsApplication No. 09/773,581

Please amend claims 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 15 as follows:

A₂ 1. (amended) A storage organizer system comprising a rail adapted to be securely mounted to a substantially flat vertical surface, a storage unit including at least two laterally spaced-apart upright panels having front and rear portions, at least one rail engaging member mounted to the two laterally spaced-apart upright panels and extending towards the rear, said rail engaging member being adapted to engage the rail for suspending the unit from the rail, and a spacer extending rearwardly from each of said upright panels at a distance from said rail engaging member for defining a gap (D) behind said storage unit once installed on said rail.

2. (amended) A storage organizer system as defined in claim 1, wherein said rail engaging member is mountable at selected vertically spaced-apart fixed locations along said at least two spaced-apart upright panels.

A₃ 8. (amended) A storage organizer system as defined in claim 7, wherein said bracket includes a pair of parallel arms extending from opposed ends of a web member for receiving said corresponding panel therebetween with said web member covering an underlying portion of a rear edge of said corresponding panel, and a hook extending rearwardly from said web member for engaging said rail.

A₄ 10. (amended) A storage organizer system as defined in claim 1, wherein said spacer is provided at a bottom end portion of said at least two laterally spaced-apart upright panels.

11. (amended) A storage organizer system as defined in claim 1, wherein said spacer includes a projection extending rearwardly from a rear edge of each of said at least two laterally spaced-apart panels.

12. (amended) A storage organizer system as defined in claim 1, wherein said rail includes first and second legs extending at an acute angle from each other, said first legs defining a number of holes adapted to receive fasteners for horizontally securing said rail to the vertical surface with said second leg projecting upwardly.

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P32
15. (amended)

A storage organizer system comprising a rail adapted to be fixed to a vertical surface, a storage organizer unit for supporting some articles, a rail engaging member mounted to said storage organizer unit and projecting rearwardly therefrom for hanging said storage organizer unit from said rail, and a discrete spacer extending rearwardly from a lower end portion of said storage organizer unit at a distance from said rail engaging member for cooperating therewith in supporting said storage organizer unit in a substantially vertical position, with a gap (D) being defined behind said storage organizer unit once installed on said rail.

Please add new claims 16 to 18 as follows:

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16. (new)

A storage organizer system comprising a rail adapted to be securely mounted to a substantially flat vertical surface, a storage unit including at least two laterally spaced-apart upright panels having front and rear portions, and at least one rail engaging member mounted to the two laterally spaced-apart upright panels and extending towards the rear, said rail engaging member being adapted to engage the rail for suspending the unit from the rail, wherein said rail engaging member includes a transversal member extending across said at least two laterally spaced-apart upright panels, and at least one hook mounted to said transversal member between said at least two laterally spaced-apart upright panels for engagement with said rail.

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cont'd
17. (new)

A storage organizer system as defined in claim 16, wherein said transversal member is allowed to rotate about a longitudinal axis thereof relative to said at least two spaced-apart upright panels.

18. (new)

A storage organizer system as defined in claim 17, wherein said transversal member is provided in the form of a rod received at opposed ends thereof in first and second circular holes respectively provided in said at least two laterally spaced-apart panels.